AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein said existing structure is an off-shore structure.

3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein said tubular part is a submerged or partly submerged part.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein said tubular part is a support leg or bracing member of an off-shore structure.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of reinforcing or reinstating an existing structure, comprising the steps of:

attaching a reinforcing metal layer to a metal panel in spaced apart relation to thereby form at least one cavity between surfaces of said metal panel and said reinforcing metal layer;

injecting an intermediate layer comprised of an uncured plastics or polymer material into said at least one cavity; and

curing said plastics or polymer material so that it adheres to said surfaces of said metal panel and said reinforcing metal layer so as to transfer shear forces therebetween; wherein

said existing metal structure comprises a generally tubular part and said reinforcing metal layer is attached inside tubular part; and

wherein said reinforcing metal layer comprises a series of plates or shaped parts that are ~~attached~~ welded together in situ.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein said reinforcing metal layer comprises complete rings.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein said reinforcing metal layer also covers end walls of the tubular part as well as side walls.

8. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein said reinforcing metal layer is made of steel, stainless steel or aluminium.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein said reinforcing metal layer has a thickness in the range of 3 to 50mm.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 5 wherein said plastics or polymer material comprises a compact elastomer.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2, wherein said tubular part is a submerged or partly submerged part.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein said tubular part is a support leg or bracing member of an off-shore structure.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of reinforcing or reinstating an existing structure, comprising the steps of:

attaching a reinforcing metal layer to said metal panel in spaced apart relation to thereby form at least one cavity between surfaces of said metal panel and said reinforcing metal layer;

injecting an intermediate layer comprised of an uncured plastics or polymer material into said at least one cavity; and

curing said plastics or polymer material so that it adheres to said surfaces of said metal panel and said reinforcing metal layer so as to transfer shear forces therebetween; wherein

said existing metal structure comprises a generally tubular part and said reinforcing metal layer is attached inside tubular part; and

wherein said reinforcing layer comprises a series of plates that are ~~attached~~ welded together in situ.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein said reinforcing layer also covers end walls of the tubular part as well as side walls.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein said reinforcing layer is made of steel, stainless steel or aluminium.

16. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein said reinforcing layer has a thickness in the range of 3 to 50mm.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein said plastics or polymer material comprises a compact elastomer.

18. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein said existing structure is an off-shore structure.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein said tubular part is a submerged or partly submerged part.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein said tubular part is a support leg or bracing member of an off-shore structure.